

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-07

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R 162136Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 296249

STADIS////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: CENTO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

REF: ANKARA 9154

1. PRESIDENTIAL MARK-UP OF FY-76 BUDGET RESULTED IN
REMOVAL OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FOR UPGRADING CENTO MILI-
TARY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

2. AT THE WORKING LEVEL, WE HAVE URGED DOD TO COME UP WITH
CLEARLY DEFINED PROPOSAL FOR STUDY OF WHAT PRECISELY IS
NEEDED. THIS WOULD INVOLVE RELATIVELY MODEST COSTS FOR
WHICH FUNDING MIGHT BE FOUND. OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO ARRANGE
FOR SOME TANGIBLE MOVEMENT, HOWEVER LIMITED, IN MEETING
SECRETARY'S COMMITMENT TO CENTO. DOD HOPES TO COME UP
WITH PROPOSAL BEFORE END OF DECEMBER. AGAIN, QUESTION OF
FUNDING WILL BE PROBLEM BUT OUR HOPE IS THAT MODEST COSTS
INVOLVED WILL MAKE PROBLEM MORE MANAGEABLE. INGERSOLL
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